WENDELL POST

Vol. IV/No. 5 February ~ March, 1982 25¢

New Tanker for Fire Service

Selectmen have approved the purchase of a large diesal truck to be converted from a commercial oil truck into use in the fire service. Voters had specified at Annual Town Meeting '81 that a used but reliable vehicle be purchased to replace the troublesome 30 year old tanker used by the Wendell Fire Department.

The large tanker, when properly piped, outfitted and painted, and otherwise transformed into a fire apparatus, will have a water carrying capacity of 3000 gallons, or 3 times the volume of the old tanker. In a hilltown such as Wendell where readily assessible pressurized water at hydrants is not available, this larger capacity will represent more water at the fire scene and less road time in the transportation "relay" of water from nearby sources such as ponds and streams.

Wendell will have three trucks, all actively in service: a forestry truck, a pumper and the new-used tanker. A committee consisting of Chief Ricketts, Deputy Chief Williston and several other firefighters are presently looking over the truck and assessing its needs and the features that will be required for duty in Wendell. Purchase and refitting must fit within financial guidelines established by the '81 Town Meeting vote. More on this later...

Inside Stories

BICENTENNIAL VIGNETTES	pg. 10
DEATHS: HARRY THAYER, GRACE GAGNON	pg. 4
FREE CASH TO REPAIR BRIDGES	pg. 3
WENDELL DEMOCRATES CAUCUS	pg. 3
NEW SALEM ACADEMY STIRRINGS	pg. 4
WENDELL TAX MAP PROJECT	pg. 2
NEW SALEM NEWS	pg. 7
and more.....	

Acid Rain Burnout

While the huge accumulation of snow that blankets our area may make for a pristine winter wonderland, the environmentalists see a menacing time bomb waiting for the spring melt-off to detonate into a torrent of biologically toxic acid rain. Exaggeration? Hysterical rhetoric from paranoid trout fishermen? No, here are some facts.

Acidity/alklinity is measured on a 14 point "Ph." scale on which a Ph. of 7 is neutral, 0 is pure acid, and 14 is pure alkline. "Uncontaminated" rain in New England, according to Tom Zajicek, of the U.Mass Water Chemistry Dept., averages a Ph. of 5.6, slightly acidic due to natural atmospheric chemical reactions. The snow and rainfall this January has fluctuated between 3.0 and 4.2. According to Alan VanArsdale, acid rain expert for the Dept. of Environmental Quality Engineering, the snow highest in acidity is the first to melt, causing a "pulse" of highly toxic run-off. The first waters to be "biologically crippled" will be small headwater beaver ponds, marshes, shallow ponds, and other slow running upland waters. The effects are probably already pronounced here in Wendell where the geo-chemistry leaves little in the way of buffering (neutralizing) alklines; most commonly calcium carbonate or limestone, which we do not have. Dick Keller, Mass. Dept. of Fisheries and Wildlife's water quality scientist, suspects "major problems" with the native Brook Trout populations in the upper Swift River drainage. The Eastern Brook Trout is our only native trout. They have been here for thousands of generations, evolving a "gene Pool" especially adapted to this environment. When they go they cannot be replaced. The Brook Trout is the most acid tolerant of all the trout species and cannot live in water with a Ph. lower than 5.5. It may already be too late to save them. The State will not stock Rainbow and Brown Trout in water with a Ph. of less than 6.0. Local Lakes Mattawa and Wyola, usually stocked by the State, will not be stocked this spring because they are in "critical" condition.

... Cont. pg. 3

Pre-School May Get Ax!

The public tuitioned preschool affiliated with Wendell Head Start may be in its last year, according to Superintendent of Schools, Leonard J. Lubinsky. Two and a half years of federal subsidies in the form of a CETA teacher's aide position were cut last winter, and the program is no longer able to cover its expenses.

Lubinsky and Sarah Younglove, Director of Franklin County Head Start described the situation at a public meeting on January 19 at Swift River. A committee was formed to make final recommendations to Lubinsky.

...cont. pg. 4

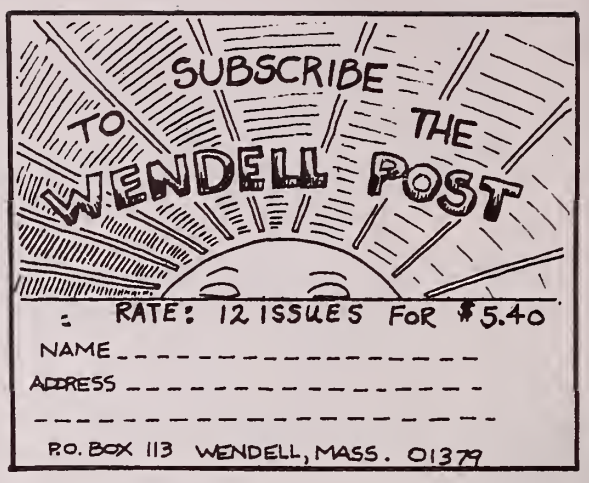
New Salem - Wendell School Budget

The burdensome task of preparing the New Salem - Wendell School budget is underway. The school committee is poring over line budget worksheets and is asking the superintendent to defend an approximate ten per cent increase. Times are tight and such increases raise many questions. In anticipation, Leonard Strauss explained some of the items he feels are most important to the functioning of Swift River.

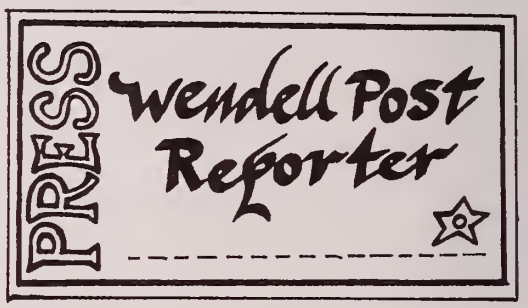
1. Teacher's Salaries - "The staff, and the right level of staffing is most important," said Strauss. "I'm concerned about their morale and want them to feel that they are being paid reasonably and will be treated fairly in negotiations."

He said he would like to see salaries keep pace with other schools in comparable communities and reflect increases seen in local industry as well. He explained that the school committee is compiling these figures and that a salary subcommittee, made up of two teachers and two school committee members, one from each town, is considering the information.

... Cont. pg. 3



Help Wanted: Reporters



A Message from your Postal Service

"Neither rain, nor snow, nor sleet, nor gloom of night shall stay us form our appointed rounds" is the old adage of the Postal Service and all personnel connected with mail and its delivery, make a supreme effort to get it to the customer in good condition and on time. It would make delivery of the mail easier for us, if some of the problems that we face daily, trying to accomplish this task, were understood.

With the snow and weather we've had this year, an unobstructured mailbox is most important. This means no vehicles in front of the boxes and snow must be removed as soon as possible. A half moon shaped area in front of the boxes to enable the carrier to drive up, deliver mail and then drive on, is the best possible solution to the problem.

New regulations require that box numbers preceed the post office name in the address for delivery- examples are:

P.O. Box 000 OR S.R. Box 0
Wendell, MA 01379 Wendell Depot, MA 01380

Street names may be used prior to box numbers but those letters with only a street or road address, with no delivery on that particular street or road, should be returned to sender for non-delivery.

Another area of concern is children getting into mailboxes. Parents should impress upon children that it is a serious offense touching other mailboxes and contents than your own. Articles put into mailboxes must have postage. Do not leave things in boxes unless it is known they'll be removed before mail is delivered by the carrier. He has the responsibility to bring it to a post office to be rated for postage and a notice of postage-due would be sent to the person.

Another important point we'd like to make is - Use your correct post office address. It has to be one office but not both.

All of the above will help the Postal Service in your town give you better service and that is our aim.

Gladys Powling, Postmaster, Wendell
L.D. Gibbs, Postmaster, Wendell Depot

Tax Map — Key to Valuation?

In January The Board of Assessors and The Finance Committee met with representatives of Ainsworth Associates to the company's proposal to draw a tax map of the town. Members of both boards were enthusiastic that such a map would solve several dilemmas facing the assessors.

The total package would cost the town $22,400, which could be paid over two years. Goods and services included in this project include the following:

1. An aerial photograph of the town. (cost $9,000)
2. Draw map, check boundaries, interview owners, make cross indexed card file of all property and train the assessors in using this material. (Cost $13,400)
3. An additional $400 a year would update the map and provide storage for the master map.

Several plaguing problems would be solved if The Board of Assessors had a tax map to use. Some of these difficulties have been virtually insurmountable for several years.

Not the least of the conflicts is the dispute with the Dept. of Environmental Management (Wendell State Forest) over the amount of land it owns in Wendell. In the past few years the discrepancy between the State's and the Town's figures has grown to be an expensive one. The aerial photograph of the land should settle this argument, as well as locate other parcels missed or poorly described in the past.

In the past year The Mass. Dept. of Revenue has stepped up the pressure on the Wendell Assessors to re-value the entire town. Apparently the tax map would help to satisfy its demands. The alternative could be a revaluation by a commercial firm costing in excess of $60,000. The state could force the town to take this alternative and to pay the bill.

Because the map would accurately locate and describe the land parcels, the assessors could concentrate their effort to assess Wendell's housing stock. Valuing land has become a time-consuming and frustrating task for them at the expense of their other work.

The Assessors, Finance Committee and Selectboard will meet Feb. 16 to discuss the Ainsworth proposal further. Assessor Pliny Stebbins, encourages Wendell taxpayers to come to this meeting to learn more about the project.

WENDELL POST

Vol. IV No. 5

CONTACT STAFF

Anne Diemand	544-7347
Kathy-Ann Becker	544-2086
Michael Idoine	544-2623
Brenda Vincent	544-3981
Faith Diemand	544-2270

NEW SALEM CONTACT:

Jane Schoenberg 544-7532

STAFF:

David White, Lisa Aubin, Lynn Ready, Penny Scott, Jeanne Ingress, Claudia Scully, Shane Devine

PHOTOGRAPHER

Don Pugh

CONTRIBUTERS:

Rubert Goddard, Dianne Knapp, Marion Herrick, Anna Hartjens, Ed Judice, Elsie Diemand, Cyndy Pearlman, Tina Cohen, Harry Williston, David Boatwright, Myron Becker, Ed Chase, Maryvonne Kutsch, Emma Cappelluzzo, Everett Ricketts, Les Black, Jean Webber, Terri Nelson, Patricia Sylvia, Broadus Mitchell

CONTRIBUTORS FROM NEW SALEM:

Trudy Berkovitz, Nat Needle, Ellie Voutselas, Joyce Shortt, Heidi Krantz-Jones

CIRCULATION: 375
Box 113, Wendell, Mass. 01379
Printer: Highland Press, Athol
Advertising: Faith Diemand
Subscriptions: Anne Diemand
Subscription rate: 12 issues for $5.40

One should learn to disagree without becoming disagreeable.

Acid Rain cont. ...

Quabbin Reservoir, the State's premier trout fishery is "in tough shape" according to Keller. At the rate things are going, Quabbin may also be devoid of most fish in the near future. VanArsdale thinks that we are only a few years behind the New York Adirondacks, where over 200 high altitude lakes and ponds are ecologically sterile.

For Wendell resident Ann Zak, acid rain alarms come too late. A 3½ acre pond on her property which supported a healthy population of pickerel and sunfish is now almost, if not completely, without fish. When trout were stocked, Ann found them dead and washed up on shore soon thereafter She reports that the water is very clear, (a symptom of an acid killed pond) and that the water stings her eyes when she swims.

To the area resident who is not an outdoor enthusiast, the impact of acid rain is less clear. All of the scientists interviewed strongly agreed that the whole ecostystem would be affected, but without precedent, we have no way of knowing exactly how severe the destruction may be on trees, plants, and agriculture. Zajicek believes that economic loss will result from the increased corrosion of metals in our automobiles, buildings and plumbing. Although drinking water with a high Ph. is not directly harmfull, breathing acid fog may be. Because acidic water is capable of dissolving higher quantities of metals such as copper, aluminum, and lead from our plumbing and the minerals in the ground through which our water is filtered, it is obvious that the acid rain problem will affect more than the trout.

Acid rain is created when sulfer dioxide and nitric oxide, which is emitted by fossil fuel burning plants and automobiles, reacts with moisture in the atmosphere forming sulfuric acid and nitric acid. A few years ago the large industrial cities in the midwest, such as Gary, Ind. and Cleveland, Ohio, got tired of breathing the pollution caused by the huge coal and oil burning manufacturing plants in their cities. To rectify the situation, the industries erected very tall smoke stacks designed to send their emissions into the upper air streams. These air currents travel from west to east bringing us our weather. Virtually all environmental scientists agree that the tall stacks are the major culprits or primary emitters of the sulfates and nitrates which produce our acid rain.

Although the treatment of ponds and lakes with imported limestone (at $35.00 a ton) is effective in countering acidification in some waters, (it will not work in rivers) it is at most an expensive "bandaid" remedy. Elimination of contaminants in the emissions of the tall stacks with the use of "scrubbers", which can be 80-90% effective, is the only real solution to the problem. With President Reagan and his cohort, Secretary of Interior Watts, trying to water down the Clean Air Act even further, the outlook is somewhat dismal.

Even though scientists like VanArsdale, Keller, and Zajicek have set up cooperative monitoring systems with the meager financial resourees available, and are feeding information to the few politicians who show interest, notably Kennedy, Boland, Conte, and Tsongas, and the Environmental Protection Agency, public support and education is necessary to affect government policy. With unemployment high and official sympathy toward environmental concerns at an all time low, it is to quote Allan VanArsdale "not a nice picture".

by Myron J. Becker

Free Cash to Repair Bridges

The December 15, 1981 Special Town Meeting acted on nine articles, including one to use $55,000 from the free cash account to do major repair work on two of Wendell's bridges. By a unanimous vote the meeting approved a ban on radioactive waste disposal in the town. In all the meeting voted to use more than $70,000 in free cash to meet various expenses.

After a long discussion, the 28 voters who attended the meeting decided that tapping the free cash account for $55,000 was the best way to pay Wendell's share for the cost of repair on the bridge at Erving Center and the bridge at Farley crossing. Erving would pay the balance and has voted to do so. The Wendell vote was unanimous. An alternative, to buy up land affected by closing the bridges, was defeated at the special meeting.

Wendell joined many other towns in Western Massachusetts in banning the disposal of radioactive waste by passing a zoning bylaw to that effect.

The Swift River School secured sums of $606 for supplemental funding, $1,211 for sound improvements, and $12,500 for special needs expenses.

The Highway Dept. received $1,000 for its Machinery Maintenance and Operation Account.

$121.50 was appropriated to pay a bill from last year, and $646 was added to pay for the year's Comprehensive Insurance bill.

Finally, on the advice of the Assessors the meeting moved to pass over a request for a free cash appropriation to lower the tax rate.

Wendell Democratic Committee Selects Delegates

Like their counterparts across the State, registered Wendell Democrats met at the Town Hall on Saturday, Feb. 6 at 2:00 to elect a delegate to go from Wendell to the nominating Convention to be held May 22 at the Springfield Civic Center.

The delegate chosen by the Wendell Dem. Caucus will join with 45 delegates and 36 alternates from 26 other towns to form the Franklin County delegation to the Democratic Convention. The delegate's business will be to issue non-binding endorsementsfor candidates in the gubernatorial race, as well as for other state offices, including U.S. Senator. The Democratic Primary, to be held Sept. 14, will decide the actual candidates for nomination.

Twelve registered Democrats attended the Wendell Caucus, observed by no less than three of Gov. King's scouts out of Boston. Elected were Karen Pierce as delegate, Emma Cappelluzzo as alternate.

Other business included the election of Joseph Diemand as local committee chairperson and Kathy Becker as secretary.

While enthusiastic Dukakis sentiment clearly ran high, the issue of sending an uncommitted delegate created an interesting and lively dialogue. Another meeting will be held in late April to discuss further developments, strategies and issues which will relate to the up-coming convention. All registered Democrats will be encouraged to participate in this meeting.

Swift River Budget

cont from pg. 1

This year the school committee directed the superintendent to prepare his initial budget with a 6% increase (part step, part cost of living raises). Strauss said, "last year the initial proposed budget reflected a salary figure of only step increases and from that point on the staff felt that the door was really closed on a higher figure and a fair settlement.

2. Inservice Training - "We need five to six hundred dollars. Many of our staff have been with us six, seven, eight years. In the beginning I didn't think inservice training would be necessary. I thought we could do it ourselves. We do, but it is not enough. The teachers need to take courses and attend workshops to renew ideas, to exchange ideas with other teachers and to return to their classrooms newly inspired."

Strauss expressed appreciation for the recent appropriations for this year's inservice training needs. He described the economical manner in which his staff will be attending a reading conference: half the staff will attend the first day of the conference, half will attend the second. They will meet the following week to share ideas. He said he is looking forward to the social studies consultant helping them shape up their social studies curriculum

3. Field Trips - "Last year there was nothing in the budget for field trips. Teachers value field trips and make them an important part of the curriculum. So in order to have field trips, a lot of fund raising had to be done. Fundraising has been a real distraction for the teachers and for me. Parents have helped too, but it has still been a distraction."

Strauss continued, "There is a further problem that once an appropriation is replaced by a fund raising effort, there is a tendency to assume that those monies will continue to be fund raised. We're hoping this will not be the case."

4. Maintenance - "Maintenance is important too. Sometimes I think we have been penny wise and pound foolish." He cited an example of this: There were insufficient funds to seal the black top. Consequently, extra money will be necessary to replace it in the long run.

"This year I'm concerned about the request for light bulbs. Most of the bulbs in the school have lasted their expected life time and need to be replaced. This will be a substantial cost. But without the necessary appropriations, we face possible damage to the ballasts and a much greater expense."

Strauss explained that about $800 of the proposed $5,175 building maintenance request would be used for a small wall and ceiling area to continue the school's sound proofing. He said that in a staff survey several years ago, the teachers agreed that they needed a quieter place to work and teach. "I'm hoping we'll end up with these walls and later some more, so the school will be a good place to teach and learn."

JAMES L. SENN
EXCAVATING CONTRACTOR
240 Wendell Rd, Millers Falls, 659-3807

• Land developing
• grading
• roadways
• trenching
• snow removal
• Fill-Loam-Gravel
SEPTICTANKS + LEECH FIELDS INSTALLED

Burnett Builders
544-3430
Wendell Ma.

New Life at the New Salem Academy

by Nathaniel Needle

I'm writing this article to inform local residents of plans for a new educational program designed to serve New Salem, Wendell and most of the surrounding townships. The plans call for a summer performing arts program to begin this July, and a year-round "economic skills" program to begin in September.

Being the initiator of this project and a new resident in New Salem, I have spent the past three months meeting with many individuals and groups in the area, trying to enlist support for this idea. The Board of Trustees of The New Salem Academy have expressed some interest, and it is my hope that the Academy buildings will end up becoming the site for this project. The New Salem-Wendell Rural Arts Program has agreed to sponsor the project and accept tax-exempt donations in its behalf.

This summer's program will consist of three parts. First, a series of performances by local artists will feature workshops (before or after each performance) where the artists will communicate some insights into their work. Second, there will be a trip to see some regional arts events for children and adults. Third, there will be a variety show, composed of acts and skits to be fashioned out of all that amateur talent floating around out there. These activities would be open to people of all ages.

The "economic skills" courses will fall into three categories. Some courses will teach a skill, like carpentry, gardening, or doing your own taxes, well enough so that students can expect to save money using those skills. Other courses will teach those who already possess a particular skill how to use that skill to make money by starting a "home industry" or small business. Still other courses will train groups of people possessing skills or interests in common to organize co-operatives that make a profit and/or provide a needed service. Examples would be crafts, day-care, auto repair, holistic healing, barter and skill exchanges, etc. Special economic projects for children, teen-agers, or retired citizens could also be organized.

My long-range intention is to set up a school for grades 7 through 9 to be controlled by its teachers, parents, and students. Students would provide volunteer assistance to the "community education" programs already established, and in return, faculty and adult students from these programs would enrich the curriculum of the school.

While fund-raising efforts are beginning, my strategy is to start modestly with a lot of volunteers and very little cash, then gradually assume heating and maintenance costs for the Academy as revenues are generated by programs and outside funding. Grants and contributions tend to come easier once a solid venture is under way. I feel that this project and the Academy are truly ideal for each other, but my commitment to this locality is firm, regardless of what the Board decides.

I'm eager to hear any comments, criticisms, or questions you may have. A phone survey has begun which will give me a sense of community interest; thanks to the folks who are helping with that. Other offers of volunteer assistance (so many small tasks!) would be greatly appreciated. Please call me at 544-7103 or mail a note to RFD #1, Chestnut Hill Rd., Orange, MA 01364.

Deaths

Grace Gagnon

Mrs. Gagnon of South Main Street, Wendell suffered a fatal coronary attack as she drove to work the morning of a treacherous ice storm on Wednesday, Feb. 3rd. She was found behind the wheel of her car on North Leverett Road in Leverett early Wednesday morning.

Mrs. Gagnon's death left Mr. Gagnon ill and at home. Mr. Gagnon was taken to the hospital, and relatives have come to his aid.

Mrs. Gagnon was born in New Salem, May 15, 1920, the daughter of William and Susan (Ashley) Fisher. She was employed at WESCO Electrical Co. in Greenfield, and previously at the Fleetwood Nursing Home in Athol.

Over the years the townspeople have kept their eyes out for the Gagnons. The road boss would watch to make sure that Mrs. Gagnon got home safely, for example. People feel a loss for this quiet couple who have lived along with us here in Wendell for so many years.

Besides her husband, Zoel, Grace leaves a sister, Ruth Pemberton of Orange, and a brother, Ernest Fisher of Lawrence.

Services were held Saturday, Feb. 6 at the Witty Funeral Home in Orange, with the Reverend Vance Frank of the First Universalist Church officiating. Burial was in South Cemetery, Orange.

K.B.

Harry Thayer

Harry Thayer would have celebrated his 92nd birthday at Franklin County Nursing Home on Feb. 11th. He died Wed. Feb. 3rd.

Harry Thayer is loved and respected by everyone who knew him as a good hearted, service-oriented man who helped people and projects in Wendell without being asked. Until a stroke partially paralized him about 10 years ago, Harry was an active and a positive force in all Wendell goings on, and notable in the Wendell Center Church. Harry was familiar too as a bicycler and a walker on Wendell scenic roads.

An orpnan, Harry adopted the Wendell community as his friends, and the Robert Ballou's as his family when he came here at age 20. As Winny Ballou wrote in a Greenfield Recorder article about him on the occassion of his 80th birthday, " "Born in Plamer, Feb. 11, 1890, he grew up never knowing his parents or relatives. He left town at intervals for empolyment, but he always returned to Wendell where he maintained his residence. Through the years Thayer has been a man who asks nothing, but gives all."

Winny recorded that Harry held the positions of Highway Superintendent, Moderator, Forest Warden, Cemetary Commissioner, custodian of Swift River School, Board of Public Welfare and Sealer of Weights and Measures. He was active as a member of the Wendell Fire Dept. since it was first organized in 1956, a Star Route mail carrier, a member of the Orange Postal Employees Mutual Benefit Organization, and a member of the Wendell Center Church, serving on the Board of Trustees and as Sunday School Superintendent. His untiring effort, combined with that of but a few others, kept the Church doors open.

After his stroke about 8 years ago, Harry left his tidy little bachelor residence beside the Wendell Church, where Mr. Mackey now lives, to be cared for in the Franklin County Nursing Home. Harry continued to enjoy visiting with people and hearing what was happening in Wendell but partial paralysis made speach difficult for him. Some friends coped with the frustration and continued to share Harry's life. Others were perplexed how to deal with this new Harry. Time passed; another birthday added to another and another, now Harry is gone, on the eve of his 92nd birthday. He'll remain in Wendell stories for a long time because Harry Thayer was a good man to know, and one good man to remember.

A memorial service was held Monday the 8th at Witty Funeral Home in Orange.

Donations to his memory may be given to the Golden Agers, c/o Inez Lewis.

K.B.

Pre-School Cuts

cont. from pg. 1

The recommendations were: 1) tuition be set at the March school committee meeting, 2) recruiting potential four year olds in New Salem and Wendell starting right after the March meeting instead of later in the spring, 3) if recruitment in these two towns does not fill the seven slot capacity, enrollment be opened to surrounding towns, and 4) that fund-raising efforts be considered as a last resort.

The joint Head Start / preschool has been using The Wendell Center School for the past four years. Although separately funded, the two component programs share staff and classrooms. The Head Start component serves a maximum of 17 four year olds; the tuition component, 7.

Head Start is a free federally funded preschool program for families whose incomes meet specified federal guidelines. It staffs the program with a head teacher, teacher's aide and cook. The preschool program provides an aide. This year's tuition is $525.

Total yearly income from tuition has varied due to fluctuating enrollment. During the first 2½ years of CETA staffing, funds accumulated; expenses were primarily food and a share of the building maintenance. For the last year an aide has been paid from these accumulated funds. The surplus is gone and next year the tuition program must have capacity enrollment to be self-supporting

Lubinsky said next year's estimated budget is $2,500 for a teacher's aide's salary, $1,000 for building maintenance. Tuition income from capacity enrollment would be $3,675 at the present tuition rate and would cover expenses.

Any parent interested in enrolling a child for the remainder of this school year or for next year should contact Leonard Lubinsky.

The future of Wendell Head Start was also discussed. At the end of the '82-'83 school year, the five year contract for the Wendell Center School will terminate. Head Start would then be free to establish a program elsewhere. A possible alternative is a free public preschool for all four year olds at Swift River. Interest in day care facility afternoons at The Wendell Center School was also expressed.

GUESS WHO'S
RESTAURANT & LOUNGE
Serving fine Meals in a Casual Atmosphere
11am-9pm
Seven Days a Week
Lunches $1.00 and up
Dinners $3.50 to 7.50
Open mike every Wed 8:30-11:30
Come and share your talent with us!

On Being Healthy

Maryvonne Kutsch

There is a lot of talk going around these days about diet, and it is hard to separate the fact from the fiction. One thing is for sure and that is we are on our own when it comes to taking care of our bodies. We must use our common sense to try to filter the data and determine which advice applies to us.

The main topics in the current diet discourses are Fat and Cholesterol, Sugar(refined/White), Salt and "dangerous" Chemicals. It would be a comfort to think that the government was on top of these questions that many of us have, and they do have adedicated team of experts in the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), andthe Dept. of Agriculture, but unfortunately it is a complex task, it seems, to translate scientific fact into public policy. In the case of a ban on a particular potentially harmful chemical, Robert Reinhold in a New York Times article said that the government agencies face these concerns and fears:

> "Is the evidence solid enough? How will Congress react? Should a move be made during an election year? What will be the economic consequences? Is the public numb to new reports of hazards in one food after another? Are more deformed babies being born for every day of delay?"

In the case of the government trying to take a stand on our current fat and cholesterol intake, Mr. Reinhold had this to say:

> "The Agriculture Dept. ... current guidelines have stirred some controversy because they recommend moderation in consumption of fat, saturated fat and cholesterol. These recommendations have been strongly opposed by the meat and dairy industries. The department has decided not to publish a magazine called Food/2, which contains recipes based on the current guidelines.

This is a time of deregulation in our government. Many people are happy to have the government "off their backs", but this could also mean that we will not be as well informed about the potential dangers in our foods or dietary habits. That is why I believe that it is up to the individual to become informed and to use common sense in interppreting information. In the next few months, I plan to accumulate helpful data on the issues which I have keynoted at the beginning of this article. In the meantime, it is cheaper (and most likely safer) to process your food in your home. Try to eliminate the middleperson and therefore know what is in your food.

Back to minerals: Phosposrous(P) is the next most abundant mineral after calcium in the body. Calcium(Ca) and P are the main ingredients of the mineral content in the teeth and bones. The daily need for (P) is on a one-to-one basis with (Ca), but unlike (Ca), it is rare to find an individual with a (P) deficiency. In a recent comparison of the diets of 2 adolescent students at the Maple Valley School, I was surprised to find that their (P) intake was nearly twice that of their (adequate) (Ca) intake. This was due to their heavy meat, poultry, fish, dairy and wheat produst intake. In adult experimental animals (mice, rats and dogs) bone loss was observed when (P) levels were in excess of dietary needs. This has caused concern of a similar reaction in the adult human, but as of yet, there is (to my knowledge) no conclusive data to support this.

Have you tried ALOE for your burns? Try applying aloe gel (from the plant or from a health food store) on a very clean burn area. Not only does it stop pain, but seems to promote miraculous healing; fast and without scarring(the gel from the plant creates a "bandage" when dry.

Ladies Aid Celebrated Christmas

Santa was invited to Wendell by the Ladies Aide for the occassion of their Annual Christmas Party, traditionally held in the Wendell Townhall. A beautiful Christmas tree graced the hall, thanks to Harry and Del Williston. Firefighters responded to the scene with ladders to decorate. The Wendell Free Library was represented by Trustee Tina Cohen, who worked with the Ladies Aide to show films to the children. Annie Hartjen's dance class performed, also, to the delight of the assemblage. Here, Santa, presents Danob Shea with a gift, under the approving eye of Sylvia Wetherby. Doug Simon is also somewhere in this picture, if you know where to look.

Wendell Free Library Notes

Over this winter, the library has been expanding its facilities by finishing the basement into a pleasant room which will have numerous uses. Construction on it is nearly done and an official open house will be held in April during National Library Week. At this time, furnishings are being sought for it, especially some comfortable stuffed chairs. Anybody who has one to donate should contact Margaret Stebbins at 544-3970.

The Library is sponsoring a winter film series for children and the third program is scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 17. The show starts at 3PM and lasts approximately an hour, with five short films that are appropriate for children, ages 3-7. All are welcome and admission is free.

Lois Carey and Tina Cohen attended a special session on reference materials held at regional library headquarters in January.

Remember: If you need a book we don't have in our Wendell Library, we can send out for it through the regional system. It generally takes 2-3 weeks to obtain, and you can't request a book less than six months old (publication date). But an interlibrary loan is a way to get a book without personally going to other libraries or buying it yourself.

A good book can be a good escape this winter - visit the library soon and see what we can do for you! Our winter hours
- Tues. 2-3 and 6-8 PM
- Wed. 12-3 and 6-8 PM

- Tina Cohen -

Richard's Corner
Pizza + Grinders
1-413-863-2622
166 Millers Falls Rd. Turners Falls

Hawley Pharmacy
Millers Falls 413-659-3227
Prescriptions filled ~ medical supplies
cards ~ gifts ~ Sundry items
S+H Green Stamps

Joseph A. Diemand D•B•A
MORMON HOLLOW AUTO
FOR DAMAGE-FREE TOWING CALL (617) 544-6670
SPECIALIZING IN USED FORD PARTS
(617) 544-8502
9-5 Mon Sat
12-5 Sun
Mormon Hollow Rd Wendell
24 HOUR TWO WAY RADIO EQUIPPED
800-922-8494

Lou on the Loose

Q: When strapped with a bad case of cabin fever or other winter related ailments such as colds or car trouble, how do you spell relief?
A: M-U-S-I-C

Yes, music, strummed on accoustic guitar or played on a piano or reproduced on your record player or radio, can transport you far enough away from life's daily troubles so as to make them easier to deal with upon return.

With that in mind, it gives me great pleasure to announce the formation of Wendell's first record company, Ra Records, and the release of its first record, a 45 rpm "single" by Judith Ann-Marie (Judy Stawarz) which will be ready to spin on local turntables by the time you read this column. An almost totally homegrown product, the record was recorded at Wendell Studio in Sept.'81 with Jeff Bauman engineering on equipment supplied by Klondike Sound Co. Both sides feature the soulfully etherwal voice of Judy, who is no stranger to fans of the Wendell Rangers and the Magic Music Band, and the musically rythmic backing of Loose Caboose original and "One of the Poorest People", a song which became quite popular last year via local airplay of Jamaican Junior Tucker's version.

Speaking of Jamaica (aahh!) and Loose Caboose, the album recorded there and in NYC by them last year should be out by Spring. The tape, which features 8 Caboose original songs, is undergoing final preparations in NYC. Meanwhile, back here at home, Caboose will play its first area show of 1982 on Sat., Feb.27 at the Cornerstone on Page Bvld. in Springfield. Featured during the show will be Judy and area disc jockey Leroy "Black Lion" Mitchell. There will be food and drink sold on location and a bus providing safe and warm transport to and from Wendell (via Amherst and Northampton for those who can't hack the driving hassles. A good time is guaranteed for all! Bring your dancin' shoes. For more info call 544-3106 or 544-3592.

Elsewhere on the local scene, Klondike reports that Outerspace had a great time bringing in the New Year, and the 14th year for "Space with the original Space band (including "the Chief" on drums). Outerspace continues to grow bothcollectively and individually. After a short tour of ski resorts in Maine and New Hampshire, they returned to their individual pursuits which include divinity school for Chief, a regular Tuesday night at the Other End in Greenwich Village for Compton Maddox, recording projects in Nashville and NYC for Elliot Osborn and heavy contracts for Klondike Sound Co. which include the upcoming Boston Globe Jazz Festival (featuring Ella Fitzgerald) in March and the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival down in the land of jambalya in late April and early May. As for future Outerspace shows, we'll most likely have to wait 'til they re-group for their summer tour.

If BLUES fits your muse though, you won't have to wait that long. Perry Howrth (featured in the last Lou colum) will bring his electric blues trio into the valley for hot dates at A Separate Entrance (Hot L Warren) in South Deerfield on Tues.,Feb.9 and the Wok Lounge on Rt.9 in Hadley on the 10th and 11th. Perry's also been featured recently at the Scotch Mist in Greenfield and "Live" on WMUA 91.1 on your FM dial.

LOOSE NOTES: Scott Ritter sends his regards from sunny Florida where he's backing up a country singer for the winter. Music continues at Guess Who's on Rt. 202 without him. Former Magic Music & Fairchild drummer Jo-an Palana is playing with Nick Branch in Brattleboro. Debbie Fier recently played a sold-out date at the Iron Horse Cafe in Northampton and is laying the groundwork for a solo LP.

ILLUSTRATIONS

Above, in a recent photo by Don Pugh, Jack Ellis's home and snow dotted fence posts. illustrate the type of winter we are experiencing out there now.

Left, in photos lent by Rubert Goddard to potray a Wendell winter of the past, is a 1943 snow storm. Mr Goddard is out plowing down by the Old Town Farm, now the Judice home, in snow head-light deep.

Finally, congradulations to WRSI of Greenfield (95 FM) and WMUA in Amherst for continuing to present a wide variety of programming which is so rare and enjoyable these days. As Taj Mahal says "Music keeps us together".

Green River cafe
Wholesome Vegetarian Meals
Affordably Priced
Breakfast & Lunch: Monday–Friday
6:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.
Dinner: Friday & Saturday nights
with live musical entertainment,
6 p.m. til closing
3½ Osgood St., Greenfield, Mass.
413/773-9077

High Strung Music
E. Main St. Orange
544-6002
Guild + Madiera Guitars
Stelling + Lida Banjos + Accessories
Great Stuff at Great Prices

Bill and Jane Mehr, Proprietors
The Cupola Restaurant
Hours:
Daily – 11:30 - 9 pm
Fri. Sat - 11:30 - 10 pm
Sun. 4 pm - 9 pm
Lounge open til Midnight
29 West Main St.
Orange, Ma.
544-2526

New Salem Posting

New Salem Library

South Main Street
Open: Wed. 10-8
Sat. 9-2
544-6437

The library is sponsoring Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory, a full length color film about a little boy who wins a tour of a magic chocolate factory and his character is tested by a chocolate impressario. This movie should appeal to all who are young at heart. It will be shown Feb. 19th, Friday, at 7:30PM at The New Salem Town Hall and is free to the public.

A microcomputer demonstration will be sponsored by the library on Sat., March 20th from 1-4 PM at the library. At least two or three different microcomputers will be on display by local people who will demonstrate the capabilities of their machines and answer questions. The library has arranged for two APPLE microcomputers (in different configurations) and one TRS-80 (Mod. I). Owners of other types of microcomputers who would like to demonstrate their machines are urged to contact John F. Jewett at 544-6920 as soon as possible.

The Monthly Children's Movie will be shown at the library on Wednesday, 7:00 PM, March 3rd. It will be "The Hound That Thought He Was a Racoon", and it will last approximately one hour.

Youth Group Meetings

This is the second year that the Youth Group has been meeting on every other Sunday evening at The Congregational Church. The 14 members have participated in some interesting programs. There have been guest speakers, fund-raising tag sales, a walk-a-thon for hunger, parties and even a night walk in the woods. Plans are underway for the group to present a series of skits for The Lenten Programs sponsored by the Church. Anyone who is in the 6th grade or older is welcome to join. For more information call Arlene Jones at 544-6656 or Heidi Krantz-Jones at 544-2696.

New Salem Store & Restaurant
OPEN: 6:30 A.M. To 2:30 P.M.
(CLOSED: TUES.)
Join us for early morning coffee & homemade muffins - Our homemade soups will warm these winter days!

Quabbin Restaurant
Bar and Lounge
daniels Shay Highway, Orange
Junction of Rte. 2 + 202
Serving Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Specials Daily
Tues. is Senior Citizen Day
available for private parties after 2p.m. closing.
Phone - 544-2896

Special Town Meeting

On Jan. 25, at the special town meeting, the newly formed finance committee comprised of Joyce Shortt, Tony Palnieri, and Mike Jewett reported on each article requiring expenditure. This committee will continue to report their findings at each town meeting which will help to give voters more information and background on financial matters.

The street light committee reported that it would cost the town $2,300. to turn off all of the streetlights, as New Salem would have to pay for all the lights that are not amortized. However, the electric company will shut off, at no cost to the town, all its incandescent street lights, and 3 mercury vapor lights. The street light committee recommended that the mercury vapor lights at Hessian Lane, Rte. 202, and the one on the town common be shut off. The 13 lights not amortized will be left on. The "Black-Out" date for New Salem is slated for March 1, and the result of it will save the town $1,000. annually which is approximately half of the street light bill. The town voted to appropriate $1300. to pay for the remaining lighting and the street light committee has been authorized to continue its study to formulate policy for the remaining 13 lights and to report at annual town meeting. For those people who wish to keep their street lights on, it will cost approx. $52. a light annually and you may contact Mass. Electric directly at 249-3242

Bob Hendeson next gave an informal update on our current revaluation status. The Assessors and the special consultant determined the values of all properties in town. They submitted this information and requested certification from Boston. Boston has indicated that the proposal calculated values are not within the guidelines required by certification and more information must be sent. The town appropriated $1000. to the Board of Assessors to continue their work on the revaluation of town.

The town voted to transfer $789. for soundproofing and $395. for operating costs from New Salem School committee to New Salem-Wendell School committee. These items were transfered rather than appropriated due to a surplus in the transportation for Kindergarten children in the New Salem School Comm. budget. Much concern had been expressed over the school committee's request to appropriate $6000. to transport a "handful of children" at Nov.'s special town meeting, which eventually was passed. The surplus in the transportation costs came from a change in plans which allowed the children to be transported in one vehicle as opposed to 2 vehicles which originally was proposed. Voters were very concerned over the discrepancy, and the Finance Committee suggested that articles dealing with large sums of monies be discussed at Annual Town Meetings only.

The Country Ell
HANDICRAFTS
Elm St. North New Salem
544-7535
Thurs. Fri. Sat. 12 to 5

NEW SALEM Old Home Day

Old Home Day will be held Saturday, July 17th this year. Planning has already begun for this annual event and the day promises to be an exciting one. Favorite activities like the foot race, soapbox derby and band concert will be repeated and a musical production will soon be in the works for the evening's entertainment! The Old Home Day Committee will be meeting next on Monday, March 15th at 7:00 PM. All are welcome so bring your suggestions!

Swift River Valley 4-H

Many of us have fond memories of 4-H and the new knowledge and friends we gained through belonging to a club. Carol Whittier and Heidi Krantz-Jones hope to stimulate these memories for the young people in the newly formed Swift River Valley 4-H Club. The members have chosen projects ranging from cows to small engines and from chickens to health. All the members share enthusiasm and a desire to gain new skills. The club welcomes new members from the nearby towns. The next meeting will be Feb. 22 at 7:00 PM at the home of Heidi Krantz-Jones on Moosehorn Rd., in New Salem. The Guest Speaker will be a 4-H member who spent some time in Norway. She will show slides and answer questions For more information, call Heidi at 544-2696 or Carol at 544-6964.

NEW SALEM AUTO
car sales and service
Domestic and foreign repairs
TOM CAREY 544-2064
FAYE RD. NEW SALEM

Swing into Spring with The Rose on the square in Orange
~ closed Wednesdays ~

Daniel Shay's Package Store
297 Daniel Shay's Hwy.
Orange, Ma.
Good Food
Good Booze
544-6045
at Pat + John's

Posting Place

Elections

Wendell Town Election - May 3
Voter Registrition - last day April 13
Nomination Papers due March 29, 5 pm.
Nomination Papers available at the end of Febuary.

Hay for Sale

HAY FOR SALE: $1.80 a bale. Bales are app. 40 lb. per bale. Diemand Egg Farm, 4-3806 or 4-3045, ask for Pete or Anne.

POTTERY CLASSES

During Vacation Week, Feb. 15-19, Pauline Mountain Bird will be offering "Handbuilding with Clay" for children. Two sessions will run daily; the morning session from 10-11 AM, the afternoon from 1-2 PM. Four students per class are allowed and the cost per class is $4.00 which includes clay and firing. Adult classes will also be offered focusing on handbuilding and/or instruction on the Potter's wheel. These classes will be held Mon. evenings at 8:00 PM beginning Feb. 21 and running for 6 sessions. Cost will be $25.00 plus clay and firing. Other evenings available. Call Pauline at 544-3215.

OLD HOME DAY

Time to start thinking about Old Home Day again. Anyone interested in doing absolutely anything please get in touch with Anne at 544-7347 (evenings - the best time to catch me home). Meetings will be held at Anne Diemond's on Thursday, Feb. 25 and Thursday, March 18 at 7:30 p.m.

If you are resistant to meetings please give me a call, 'cause I understand. We need help with everything - the parade, games, kids, music, arts & crafts, etc. - so if there's anything, no matter how small (or big) that you can do, give me a call.

Clean-Up Day

The Wendell Post will be sponsoring a trash pick-up day sometime this spring. We had one last year and filled five trucks with trash from along West Rd., Farley Rd., Locks Village Rd., Main St., and Montague Rd. Our tentative date is set for the middle of April. Anyone interested can call Michael at 4-2623 or Anne at 4-7347. Pick-up trucks, trash bags and people will be needed.

Land Transfers

1/5/82 Harold S. and Edyth I. Overing to Ibert G. and Anmam Burati, 32.0257 acres, eastern part of Wendell.

1/7/82 Donald J. Clark to Marsha H Nute, 2 acres and bldgs., west side of Wendell Depot Rd.

DIEMAND EGG FARM
544-3806

Social Notes

Newcomers to Town

Our family moved to Wendell over the Christmas holidays. On Jan. 8th we loaned our car to a friend who totalled it. Fortunately he wasn't seriously injured, but we have been house-bound for a month already and it will be several weeks before our insurance claim comes thru and we can get a new car. In the meantime, my two-year old son, John Paul, and I are getting "cabin fever".

If anyone is going to any local food co-ops we might join, or to The Yellow Sun in Amherst, or anywhere that you think might be of interest to us, and would like our company, please call Jeanne at 544-7935. I will also babysit for children who would like to play with John Paul or take phone messages while we are stranded at home. We haven't had a chance to discover the area or meet any new friends yet. Sometime I'd like to find a beautiful vista to sit and paint. Is there anyone out there who'd like to join me?

My husband, John, has just purchased a Quadractor and would like to plow and cultivate this spring. He's particularly interested in "swamp farming" which the Quad is suited for. If anyone has any spring plowing, or would like to experiment with swamp farming, let us hear from you as soon as possible. 544-7935. Thanks! John, Jeanne & John Paul Ingress.

Ms Pfohl Completes Course

Ingrid Pfohl, member of the Wendell Board of Health, recently completed a demanding four month course in Nurse Practitioner's training in Philadelphia, Pa. The course specialized in women's health, was sponsored by Planned Parenthood and The University of Pennsylvania.

Ingrid says that "it was an excellent program and I learned alot." While the work was worthwhile, "I am glad to be back in Wendell and happy for the support from friends," she added.

Her work involved study and clinical practice and will continue with a six month internship at Family Planning in Greenfield and Athol. In June she will take the National Certification Exam to fully qualify as a nurse practitioner. Ingrid also serves as the school nurse at Maple Valley School.

Births

Jennifer Lynn Brown born on December 14, 1981 at 12:35 AM. Congratulations to Gerald Brown and Barbara Smith Brown of Bullard Pasture Rd.

Marriages

John D. Carey and Maria E. Moreno Richardson were married on December 4, 1981 in Greenfield. Congratulations to them both and wishes for a long and happy marriage.

"WENDELL" REGGAE
Lose Cabooose
RASTA
Sat., Feb. 27 at Corner Stone Blvd. in Springfield, Mass. 8 pm. Judy & other guests. Ital food on sale. Transportation will be provided by Jimmy and his bus.

Fire Log

Oct. 30 - Linda Pike, Auto fire.
Nov. 1 - Bob Vincent, Electrical fire.
Nov. 25 - David Bardsley, Chimney fire.
Dec. 20 - Allyn Dorr's, Chimney fire.
Jan. 3 - Charles Smith, House fire.
Jan. 7 - Fred Bardsley, Jr., Chimney fire
Jan. 13 - Jeffrey Baumen, Chimney fire.
Jan. 15 - Reynold's residence, Chimney fire.
Jan. 17 - Bill Noel, Chimney fire.
Jan. 25 - Mary Vaugh Kuich, Chimney fire.
Jan. 27 - Stewart residence, Chimney fire

Because of the rash of chimney fires, the fire dept. asks that people with wood stoves inspect their chimneys and keep their chimneys and stove pipes clean.

Police Log

9/18/81 - Anne Zak reported gun shot near her home & birdshot falling in her front yard.
9/18/81 - Maggie Houghton reported two juveniles trying to drown her cat.
9/18/81 - Joe Williams reported gas stolen from town truck.
10/7/81 - Car of Michael J. Peters stolen from in front of his house.
10/10/81 - Mail taken from Williston mailbox found in phone booth.
10/10/81 - Two car accident on Jennison Rd., no injuries.
10/13/81 - Car belonging to Michael J. Peters recovered in Acton, Mass.
10/22/81 - Francis Hickey arrested and charged with possession of marijuana and motor vehicles trespassing.
11/13/81 - One car accident on Wendell Depot Hill.
11/28/81 - William Kakawki hit dog of Diane Knapp on Mormon Hollow Rd.
11/29/81 - Mrs. Arthur Miller of New Salem Rd. reported break & entry into her shed. Kerosun heater and Aladdin lamp taken.
12/7/81 - Two car accident on Wendell Depot Hill. No injuries. Robert Normand arrested.
12/17/81 - Dog Officer, Tom Bardsley, reported several dogs missing and presumed stolen from Farley Rd.
12/18/81 - Michael MacDonald reported car had been hit during night.
12/19/81 - One car accident Farley Rd., no injuries.
12/24/81 - Mr. Arthur Miller reported one 16 guage stolen from his home.
1/6/82 - Two car accident on Rt. 2 bridge One man taken to Athol Memorial Hosp.
1/7/82 - Maggin Houghton reported two of her dogs and one of Anne Zak's poisoned.
1/8/82 - One car accident on Farley Rd., one person taken to hospital, no serious injuries.
1/11/82 - One car accident, Mormon Hollow Rd., no injuries.
1/18/82 - Two car accident on Depot Hill. No injuries.

KIMBALL - COOKE INC
INSURANCE
SINCE 1936
SERVING ATHOL AREA
ALL LINES
CURTIS M. KIMBALL
FRANK MAGRONE JR.
CURTIS J. RAND
CHARLES J. WINN
YOUR Independent Insurance AGENT
312 MAIN ST. 249-3273 ATHOL

COMMERCIAL PHOTOGRAPHY
Wendell Mass. 544-3529
Edward Judice 544-2739

Selectmen's Minutes

November 17, 1981

Chairman Lewis reported that he and Selectmen Simos attended a meeting with the Erving Selectmen on Monday 11/16/81 at which repairs to the jointly owned bridges that cross the Millers River were discussed. It was decided that both bridges should be repaired as soon as possible.

Highway Surveyor Joseph Williams informed the Board that he had received a phone call from a Mr. MacDonald of the Mass. Dept. of Public Works in Boston informing him that the State now wants the Farley Bridge closed to traffic. Joe said that the reason is the State wants the Farley Bridge load limit increased from 3 to 6 tons per vehicle. The Board is waiting for a written notice before they close the bridge to all traffic, but as for now they are closing it to all trucks.

The Board instructed Joe Williams to find someone with a snowblower to clear the snow off of the Arch Street Bridge and to make a path to the Bourbeau house on Old Farley Rd. in the event of snow storms this winter.

Dog Officer, Thomas Bardsley, reported that he had shot a dog that was caught in a hunter's trap. He reported that he had tried to free the dog but that the dog would not let him get close enough to the trap to release it. As a result Tom felt that he had no other choice but to shoot the dog (the owner was notified and became quite upset).

The Board instructed Tom to get a snare for future use in situations which might require getting close to a vicious dog. Tom stated that he has made one.

December 1, 1981

The Package Store license renewal for the Wendell Country Store was signed.

Fire Chief, Everett Ricketts, met with the Board to discuss the progress that he has made in looking for a used tank truck for the Fire Dept. He showed the Board some pictures and specs on some used milk tankers - these are all in the hands of an Ohio dealer. The Board informed Chief Ricketts that the Town can wait no longer and that it is time to try a bid opening to see if we can get a truck.

The Chief will present a set of specifications for Selectmen approval before next Tuesday. The Board will advertise for a truck in the Greenfield Recorder, Springfield Union and Worcester Telegram on Tuesday, Dec. 22nd & 29th. The bid opening will be on Tuesday, January 5, 1982 at 7:30 p.m.

December 15, 1981

Discussed articles for tonight's Special Town Meeting with Town Clerk, Anny Hartjens, Moderator Michael Idione, and Assessor June Lewis.

January 5, 1982

Chairman Lewis reported that he was notified on December 29th, by Town Clerk, Anny Hartjens, that Highway Surveyor, Joe Williams, has submitted his resignation effective January 30, 1982 to the Town Clerk in writing.

Donald Mackie inquired about the Temp. Highway Surveyors position that will be open because of Mr. William's resignation.

7:00 p.m. Pole Hearing: location on Montague Rd. was approved.

7:30 p.m. Opened bids for a used Tanker for the Fire Dept. Received one bid from Graves Equipment of Northampton for a used 3200 gal. - 1968 GMC for $5,500. The Board and Fire Chief will arrange to look at this vehicle before any decision is made.

Sandra Bardsley handed the Board a petition requesting an investigation of the Highway Surveyor.

Thomas Scanlon, a public accountant, from South Deerfield, met with the Board, Tax Collector Judith Wilder, Assessors Jessie Wetherby and June Lewis, Finance Committee Chairperson, Ann Zak, Administrative Assistant Rita Farrell, School Committee members Cheryl Richardson and Sandra Bardsley, and Selectmen's Clerk Harry Williston. The purpose of this meet was to discuss with Mr. Scanlon how his services might differ from and better suite the needs of the Town of Wendell than the State in performing an audit of the Town Records at the end of this fiscal year.

Mr. Scanlon explained that a lot of the work would be much the same as the State but, there would be one major difference. He or his associates would be available to answer questions and give help anytime. His cost for a 2 year audit would be $5000. about the same as the State. He also recommended starting a double entry bookkeeping system. There would be a one time cost for this ($500.-$600.).

Cheryl Richardson asked what kind of budget recommendations the School Committee might expect this year. Chairman Lewis said that they should know better in about a month.

Highway Surveyor, Joe Williams, stated that he had not received a bill re: payment for a hired loader which was not on the payroll. Ted questioned the number of hours that the loader was rented for. Mr. Williams will take care of this matter.

Selectmen Lewis and Simos met with Town Counsel John Gates on Saturday, Jan. 16, 1982. As a result of that meeting, Selectman Lewis reported that the Board of Selectmen will interview tonight for the position of Temporary Highway Surveyor. No appointment or indication of appointment can or will be made until the resignation of Joseph Williams becomes effective on Saturday, January 30, 1982. The Board will hold an emergency meeting on Sunday, January 31, 1982 at 10:00 a.m. to appoint a Temporary Highway Surveyor and Road Boss.

Joseph Williams was informed that if he questioned any of this procedure, he should contact his attorney before January 30, 1982.

Temporary Highway Surveyor condidates present were: Thomas Bardsley, Donald Mackie, Donald Richardson and Kenneth Wing.

Chairman Lewis outlined the duties, pay and benefits of the Highway Surveyor. He also reviewed the vehicles, equipment and building of the Highway Dept. He repeated to the candidates that no appointment will be made until January 31, 1982. Interviews will be conducted tonight but no decision can or will be made on the appointment until Sunday, January 31, 1982.

Selectman Simos then stated that he did not want to interview tonight. A heated discussion followed with the final outcome that there would be no interviews tonight. All four candidates would be notified when interviews and an appointment became necessary.

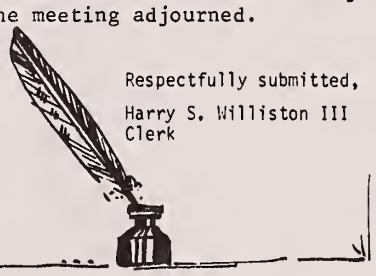
Following this, Chairman Lewis stated that he was getting very tired of working with a two man board because nothing ever gets done. He further stated that since he broke his leg, he has been working for the Town almost every day. Either on the phone or doing errands for the Highway Dept. and as of now this is going to stop. He will attend all meetings that he is required to as a Selectman, but he will accept no more telephone calls on his private telephone concerning Town business.

Mr. Lewis stated for the record, "As of now I will accept no complaints about the Highway Dept. outside of a regular Selectmen's meeting."

Following this several candidates questioned the board members present as to where the third member was. The Clerk informed those present that Mr. Boland called just before the start of the meeting to say that he would be late.

A general discussion about the position followed with the Selectmen just restating the results of Saturday's meeting with Town Counsel. Selectman Simos stated that once any of the people present leaves, any and all discussion of the Temporary Highway Surveyor position is dead until Mr. Williams' resignation becomes effective.

Selectman Edward Boland arrived just after the meeting adjourned.



Respectfully submitted,

Harry S. Williston III
Clerk

KLONDIKE SOUND CO.

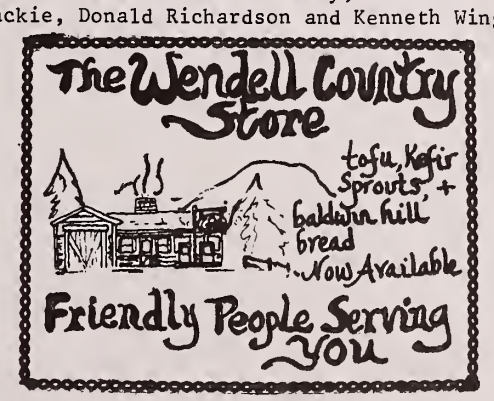
Professional Sound Systems

SALES - RENTALS
STAGE MANAGEMENT

John "Klondike" Koehler

617-544-2744

BEAR MOUNTAIN, WENDELL, MA. 01379

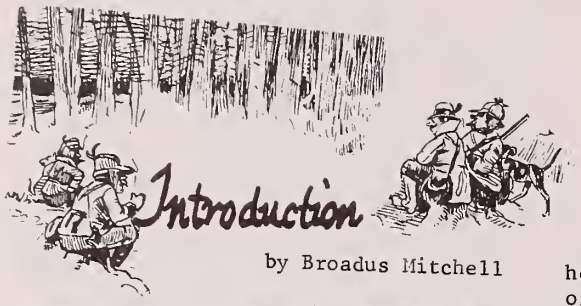


Rural Arts Program

The Wendell New Salem Rural Arts Program has been meeting weekly at the home of Brenda Vincent on Cooleyville Rd. New members are urgently sought, and can get a meeting schedule by calling Brenda at 4-3981. Plans are being formulated for the spring selection of adult evening courses. Course descriptions and registration forms will be available at libraries and most Post outlets.

Rural Arts has also agreed to sponsor the "New Salem Education Project" under the directorship of Nathaniel Needle of New Salem. The purpose of the project is to enhance the artistic, social and economic life of New Salem, Wendell, and the surrounding towns by providing non-profit educational services. A phone survey of local interests and skill needs is presently being conducted and a search is underway for a suitable facility to house the project.

Rural Arts will again sponsor contradances with Cammy Kaynor calling. Since they barely make enough money at the dances to cover expenses, their continuation is dependent upon good attendance. Dances will be held at The Wendell Town Hall at 8PM on Friday, Feb. 12 and March 12.



Introduction

by Broadus Mitchell

Most towns do not mention modesty among their merits. There is no disputing the fact that Wendell lacks distinctions that belong to many of our neighbors. To begin with, although this past year Wendell turned two hundred years old, other towns are older. There is Salem, the saints' noses pointed skyward as much as to say, "There dwells God, our fellow townsman." Cambridge is not unconscious of its superiority in poets and professors. Old Deerfield, frontier of wealth and woe; Montague, possessed of a church reputedly designed by the tasteful Asher Benjamin; then those college towns, Amherst, South Hadley, Northampton, Middletown, Williamstown and more. Every June they are loyally visited by substantial gents and dames who once--would you believe it?--were palpitating freshmen in those halls of learning. Springfield's ancient arsenal withstood the assault of Daniel Shay's angry farmers. At Turner's Falls the Indians did not fare so well at the hands of white settlers.

Wendell has never been exclusive. The original church was Congregational without question, but when the Baptists were not welcome in Shutesbury, they were happily received here. And Methodists and Mormons equally. Wendell slaughtered nobody, not witches nor redmen nor Shaysites. We have no buildings that proclaim themselves; there is not a column in the place, nor do school and church, town hall and library appear less serviceable with their plain entrances.

The town fathers chose a notable hilltop that may be called unique. The Wendell green, affectionately tended, overlooks the countryside, for the landscape falls away to north, east, south and if not to the west, it ought to do so for the sake of symmetry. Wendell is airy. Not in the sense of putting on airs, but in the sense that it is free-breathing, independent, unobtrusively content with itself, not envious of others.

If you so insist that a town so blessed must have startling episodes in its past, the sketches that follow will give you hints into our town's collective character and history, as well as into some of the individuals who helped forge that history. The Indians retreated, leaving the deer to less worthy hunters. Wendell did its share in the closing days of the Revolution, and alas, supplied prisoners for Andersonville in the Civil War. Wendell also had a vicarious part in the successful investment secrets of Hetty Green. All in all, Wendell has had citizens to inspire admiration for lifelong industry, integrity and good will. The following vignettes, written by members of the Wendell Bicentennial Committee, depict some of those citizens.

Although the following vignette is based upon a fictional character, the situation that it portrays was a very real one for those Native Americans who lived in New England during the colonial settlement. With the influx of settlers to the area, many Native Americans were displaced geographically. Because there were so many people coming to the area, living here and hunting game for their tables, very often the Native Americans were forced to go elsewhere--to other areas of the Valley in order that they might survive. This, of course, was just one of the problems that these people faced in the early days of America's colonization. But it is primarily this situation which is reflected in the story of Kiiskwamo.

Bicentennial Vignettes

KIISKWAMO, A NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN

by Emma Cappelluzzo

Setting: It is early morning, and one hears the chirping of birds and the sound of a river. Kiiskwamo is seated on a large stump. He is bare-chested and dressed in leggings. He has no weapons (no hatchet, no bow and arrow or knife. He is dark haired and muscular. He is musing to himself before he meets with the tribal elders. He is worried about his desire to leave the area to find new hunting grounds before winter sets in. He is afraid to leave his family who will be unprotected without him if he goes west into the land of the flats along the Connecticut River. He is concerned about the Mohawk raids that have increased and the palefaces from the east who are moving rapidly into his hunting grounds. And he is also worried that he will bring shame and dishonor upon his family if he does. Yet, he feels that he must go further west to see if the wildlife and water are as good as they once were here. To leave his family is not new for Kiiskwamo. He has often gone on hunting expeditions while they waited home for him and has always returned to find them safe. But now he is afraid to leave them, and now the hunting is poor in the forest.

KIISKWAMO (stirring at the leaves with a stick) If I know my elders, they will say, 'Go brave hunter. Go and see the wild berries, find the grouse and deer, and come back to us with news of who treads the forests.' But if I go, I do not wish to return...Is it because I am a coward? (pause) No! I cannot be a coward! My mother's word made me a hunter and a provider for my family. And I have never feared anything. But now I want to leave this land. I know we must all leave, that we must all go. The elders will not see this as I do. They will see me as shameful for wanting to go away. (pause) The elders are wise. All my life I have listened to them. And yet now... now I must tell them about my fears, and they will answer that I am foolish and a coward. But I know I can outrun the fleetest--that my honor since I was a boy is hunting the great swift deer! No, the fear I have is in my heart...when I think of how we are losing our hunting grounds to others...to those from the east who also hunt men and women ...What do the elders know of the time when I last went down to the clear river by the eastern plain. It was dawn, and I sat on the flat rock and prayed to the Spirit of the Great. The land was yellowred as the new sun quickly climbed and spread over the waters. From where I sat I could hear the white waters straining at the large trunks of trees, and my hope for thirsty deer grew as I peered across the flats. It was then that I saw the men with heavy robes. It seemed as if they were wrapped in bear robes. They were standing close to the bend, smoke curling 'round their heads, and they could not see me. I heard them speak, but I could not understand their words. Suddenly there was a noise of thunder and then a yell, and across the river a big, many-horned deer fell down on his knees in the shallows, his head twisted as if by a strong arm...The thunder echoed and the men's voices called loudly. Then, not far from the deer, three more men ran down from the slopes that met the water's edge. They, too, were heavily clad and they had long sticks. I saw the deer down on his side, its legs thrashing... A man lifted his stick and there was another thunder noise, as big as if the Great Spirit were roaring! The echoes rose around me...and then all was quiet ...even the deer. I froze to the flat rock and breath came steadily rushing steadily through my nose, my heart thumping inside of me. I had never seen these hunters before. Who were they? And what was the thunder they wrestled the deer with?--my deer, at my water's edge? I dared not let the men see me. I remembered the elders speaking of the white men who had said they came in peace from another valley...And yet...I was afraid of them. I watched the five men tie the deer on a long pole and carry it between them. They marched up the flats to the east, along the clear river. I stayed quiet for a long time, my eyes steady on the backs of the men as they went along, probably back to their camp in the valley beyond. Then I slid down from the flat rock, washed my face, and turned to climb the long hill back to our village. That was the first time I saw the men. Since then there have been many mornings when I have not hunted by the clear water and returned with only squirrel or muskrat instead of a hind of deer meat. I have seen the men camping on the flats and near the rock I prayed on. I knew from my brother Asinkaw that his wife and brother's brother were gone--vanished. We do not know why. Our brothers, the Mohawks, sent a messenger to us one day. I saw the brave Mohawks, and I knew they were not afraid. But they are strong and have so many hunting grounds. I am afraid for our village--the Mohawk on one side of us and the white faces on our eastern side. I have not fished on that side of the river nor have I taken deer. I go now to the base of the mountain and over the west side of the river. I have heard it said that the great bear lives in caves there, but I have not seen one yet. I believe the bear have been taken by the Mohawks before we came here. My elders take deer from the swamps near the river, and they say that someday I will be privileged to hunt the sacred bear with them. But for now I must hunt deer--deer which the white men want also. (pause) The braves sometimes say we will have no sticks to barter with the Mohawks when they come, and then the white faces will thunder at us and we will all die. Still, the elders stay and now winter is coming...We have no extra meat to dry and the berries will not last. I know we must leave here or perish...(Kiiskwamo stands now and looks out at the sky. He speaks with intensity to the Great Spirit) Oh, Father who knows all...help me help my village ...They must leave with me or perish... or I must go along to find new hunting grounds. Will I bring shame upon myself and my family if I go?...A curse on me if I do!...I do not wish to leave my family, for they are happy here and see the scarcity of food as only a passing thing. They pretend not to notice my poor hunting and praise me still, but other young hunters are also finding no food. We are crowded in the forest now...No longer do the still hours accompany me when I leave to hunt...We are too many for this small hilltop, and the close valleys are filling with others as once they were filled with game...We must leave here...Oh, Great Spirit, help me now! What shall I say to convince the elders? They will see me as weak and with no courage. How can they know that treachery by our neighbors is clouding over and will fall upon us? Oh, Great Father, give me the wisdom to explain myself as a good and brave hnuter. Give me the Mohegan way within my soul as I meet with the great elders. Help me make my speech to them with calm strength and dignity so they will hear me through you and you will speak from my heart to them...(Kiiskwamo sits down again, stirring the leaves.)

CONTINUED next issue.....